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blended into one. His attempts to convert others to his own views concerning the nature of civilization, and his persistent efforts to find the right schools for Peter and Joan are at once funny and pathetic. They are more: they arouse a certain indignation.

The second protagonist is Peter. Peter by the time he had finished his schooling had outgrown the ideas that had satisfied Oswald. Oswald had taken refuge in the conception of science and in his own conceptions of civilization. Facts are clean, he told himself, and the betterment of man's estate is a thing that appeals to one as dissipation and routine cannot. But Peter was a bit more divinely discontented than his mentor—he saw further than Oswald into the general purposelessness of things. He was disillusioned somewhat too thoroughly, and he was in imminent danger of wasting his life. Oswald could not hold him. Neither could Joan, who was in love with him.

The third and best spokesman whom Mr. Wells employs is no other than the Lord God.

Peter went to the war as an airman. He was wounded, and in his delirium he had a remarkable dream. He dreamed that he was seeking for the Lord God through endless corridors in a building filled with official persons, none of whom could tell him the way to the head office. "It was like the War Office, only more so." He found God at last in the dingiest untidiest little office it is possible to imagine. "And the Lord God of Heaven and Earth had the likeness of a lean, tired, intelligent-looking, oldish man, with an air of futile friendliness masking a fundamental indifference."

It is not permissible to spoil an extraordinary piece of writing by paraphrasing it. Peter's interview with the Lord God is a work of genius. Without eloquence, but with subtle and far-reaching irony, it expresses his underlying conception of a deity who expects man's coöperation.

THE FUTURE OF GERMAN INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS. By S. Herzog. Translated from the original German by M. L. Turrentine. Garden City: Doubleday, Page & Company.

The chief thing to be said about the book, *The Future of German Industrial Exports*, is that every American ought to read it. No war book is more important or more timely than this.

The book, now translated into English for American readers, is the work of an eminent German engineer and economist. It was published in Germany in 1915. It was not intended for any but German readers.

Here you may find, set forth with smug complacency, with an irritating assumption of God-given authority, and with tedious, conscientious—or rather, conscienceless—thoroughness, a well-developed scheme for putting all the other nations of the earth under Germany's commercial thumb.

Germany, the author blandly admits, has incurred the hatred of the world, and this hatred is a commercial liability. But all commerce is war, and the world even in time of peace is a battlefield. Germany can win in the struggle because she will be able to produce

"unsurpassable goods." She will do this by utilizing her superior genius *and also* by obtaining control of the essential raw materials. She will put an end to the "transplanting of industries" and will employ the system of compensations in order to keep her industries going and so to injure the industries of other nations.

Within Germany the plan contemplates such a rigid state control of industry as the world has never known. The rights of individuals are to be ignored; labor is to be made servile; and the success of the industrial campaigns mapped out by the state is to be assured by guarantees, to provide which all business is to be taxed. Trade secrets are to be kept as exclusive German possessions.

Outside Germany, the campaign is to be carried out by every species of deceit and force that an active German mind can imagine. Commerce must be camouflaged. Propaganda must be kept up and their must be more adaptation to foreign customs in business and industry. A guise of friendliness must be put on. At the same time German goods are to be denationalized. "The German trademark ought not to be used at first in export trade with formerly hostile countries; the same rule holds good in placing German patent stamps on the outside of goods. . . . No labelling of goods by the country of their origin can be permitted foreign officials against the will of the German exporter." Diplomacy in foreign countries will be made into an elaborate system of commercial spying.

It is expected, of course, that the "formerly hostile" countries will be conquered, and that Germany will be able to dictate terms of peace to them. These terms are to provide that the Prussians may select their own properties in this, and every other, country and operate them under imperial jurisdiction; that their officials be stationed in Allied territory to punish any one refusing to buy their goods—with much more of similar purport.

The minute details of the scheme, happily, need not interest us. It is the monstrous completeness of the thing, its coldly logical selfishness, its ghastly pretense of moderation, which shock one's now almost German-proof nerves.

Does any one doubt that the Allies have justification for preparing to check Germany's commercial expansion after the war? If so, let him read this book. Is every one satisfied upon this point? Let all nevertheless inform themselves fully concerning the sort of thing that we may expect from an undemocratized Germany even in time of peace. These things are not easily imagined by people accustomed to think of a high tariff as the most effective commercial weapon. We had to learn about gas shells from the Germans, and from them we must learn, for our own protection, the principles of ruthlessness in commerce.

FROM BERLIN TO BAGDAD. By George A. Schreiner. New York: Harper & Brothers.

It is a rather rambling and disjointed—though quite sufficiently varied and exciting—account that Mr. Schreiner has written of his experiences in Turkey during the part of the war in which Turkey